



Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

1012 Jefferson Street, Suite 2, Delano, CA 93215 tel 661-720-9140 fax 661-720-9483
47 Kearny Street, Suite 804, San Francisco, CA 94108 tel 415-346-4179 fax 415-346-8723
www.crpe-ej.org

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED

13-IEP-1

TN 71443

JUN 28 2013

Via E-mail

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

**RE: Docket No. 13-IEP-1 -- Comments on Petition for Societal Cost-Benefit Evaluation
of California's Net Energy Metering Program**

Dear Chair Weisenmiller,

The Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment (CRPE) supports the petition submitted on June 5, 2013 by the American Lung Association in California and other parties requesting that the California Energy Commission (CEC) perform a societal cost-benefit evaluation of California's Net Energy Metering Program. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments on this important issue.

CRPE is a non-profit environmental justice organization with the mission to achieve environmental justice through collective action and the law. We work with grassroots community groups in Kern, Kings and Tulare Counties to address environmental health problems and propose health protective solutions.

Net metering is a foundational policy that is helping achieve California's clean energy and climate change goals, including the goal set by Governor Brown to install 12 GW of local renewable distributed generation by 2020 and the CEC's goals for the New Solar Homes Partnership and Zero Net Energy for new homes and commercial buildings. By providing fair credit for the benefits solar systems provide to the grid and other ratepayers, net metering allows homeowners, schools and other public entities, and businesses to control their electricity costs and invest the savings in other priorities.

Net metering also has helped leverage billions of dollars in private investment in California and helped to create more than 43,000 solar jobs in the state – one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy. In addition, net metering provides air quality benefits by reducing the need for fossil fuel peaker plants. These and other societal benefits should be quantified for consideration by policy-makers, and this data can supplement the forthcoming cost-effectiveness evaluation of net metering by the California Public Utilities Commission, which has taken the lead in implementing the state's net metering law.

Providing Legal & Technical Assistance to the Grassroots Movement for Environmental Justice

Ralph Santiago Abascal (1934-1997) Director 1990-1997

Luke W. Cole (1962-2009) Executive Director 1997-2009

We respectfully request that you grant the petition and perform the societal cost-benefit study requested by the petitioners.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Farrell', written in a cursive style.

Caroline Farrell
Executive Director

cc: Suzanne Korosec (Suzanne.Korosec@energy.ca.gov)